

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

PEARL RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

CONVENED AT FAIR RIVER CHURCH, LAWRENCE COUNTY,

MISSISSIPPI, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 1845.

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COVINGTON, LA.

PRINTED BY J. D. DAVENPORT,

1845

TABLE.

Churches

Counties

Delegates

hap- res- dis- ex- in- test- dead total colored hap- grand No of
tised c'd m't m'd ord whiles pres no tised total copies 'sociat'n' m'ion.



CONSTITUTION.

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ARTICLES OF FAITH, RULES, &c., OF THE PEARL RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

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PREAMBLE.

WE, the Churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of Churches, and of maintaining a correspondence, for the preserving a federal union amongst all the Churches of the same faith and order—We, therefore, do agree to unite and form ourselves into an Association, upon the following principles, namely :

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only true and living God ; and that there are a Trinity of persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost ; the same in essence, equal in power and glory.
2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, were given by inspiration of God ; are of Divine authority, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the fall of Adam ; in the imputation of his sin to all his posterity ; in the total depravity of Human Nature ; and Man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.
4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people ; in the eternal unconditional election of a definite number of the human family, to grace and glory.
5. We believe that sinners are only justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ ; which is unto all, and upon all them that believe.
6. We believe, all those who were chosen in Christ, before the foundation of the world, are, in time, effectually called, regenerated, converted, and sanctified ; and are kept, by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.
7. We believe there is ONE MEDIATOR between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who by the satisfaction which he made to law and justice, "in becoming an offering for sin," hath, by his most precious blood, redeemed the elect from under the curse of the law, that they might be holy and without blame, before him, in love.
8. We believe good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after

justification; are evidences of a gracious state; and that it is the duty of all believers to perform them from a principle of love.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment; and that the happiness of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

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ON GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that the visible Church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of faithful persons, who have given themselves up to the Lord, and to one another, and have covenanted to keep up a Godly discipline, agreeably to the rules of the gospel.
2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church; the only law giver—that the government is with the body "the Church," and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.
3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the church until his second coming.
4. We believe Baptism by immersion, is the only scriptural mode, and that believers are the only proper subjects.
5. We believe that none but regular baptised church members have a right to partake of the Lord's supper.
6. We believe it to be the duty and privilege of all believers, to make a public profession of their faith—to submit to baptism by immersion, and to give themselves members of the visible church.
7. We believe it to be the duty of every regular organized church to expel from her communion all disorderly members, who are immoral in their lives—or that hold doctrines contrary to the scriptures.

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RULES OF DECORUM ADOPTED BY THE PEARL RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. Those delegates who are regularly chosen by the churches in our Union, shall compose the Association.
2. The delegates so chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, together with their number in fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead, since the last Association.
3. The delegates thus chosen and convened, shall be denominated the Pearl River Baptist Association.
4. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be annually chosen by a majority of the members present.
5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the union, they shall petition by letter and delegates—if, on examination, found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, and manifested by the Moderator, giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship.
6. No church in the union shall have a right to more than two delegates, until she shall exceed one hundred members. Then she shall have a right to an additional delegate for every fifty.
7. Every query sent to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to vote by the Moderator, whether it shall be debated, and if there shall be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated: *Provided always*, that those be first considered, which affect the union of the churches.

8. Every motion made and seconded, shall be taken up by the Association, except it be withdrawn by the person who made it.

9. Only one person shall speak at once, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator.

10. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted, except he depart from the subject, break the rules of decorum, or cast reflections on a brother; in which case he shall be immediately called to order by the Moderator.

11. No person shall speak more than twice to the same subject, without leave of the Moderator.

12. No brother shall finally depart from the conference, without leave of the Association.

13. The Moderator shall have the liberty of speaking to any question that may be debated, (provided the chair be previously filled :) and to have the privilege of voting, only when the Association is equally divided.

14. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over as often as the Association may deem expedient.

15. We think it absolutely necessary to have an Association fund, for defraying the expenses of the same;—for the raising and supporting of which, we think it the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums as they may deem proper, and send by the hands of their delegates to the Association; and the money thus contributed by the churches shall be deposited in the hands of a Treasurer by the Association appointed; who shall be accountable to the Association for all monies by him received and paid out, according to the direction of the same.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read, (and corrected if necessary,) and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the Association rises.

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THE POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1. It shall be the business of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches.

2. To keep up a friendly correspondence, (when convenient,) with those Associations of the same faith and order.

3. This Association shall have no power to Lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe upon any of the internal rights of the churches.

4. It shall be the duty of this Association to give the churches the best advice in their power in difficult matters—to enquire into any difficulties which may exist between sister churches, and remove them if possible.

5. To admit any of the brethren in the ministry as assistants, but not to give them the privilege of voting.

6. This Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in the union, who may be unsound in principle, or immoral in practice, until reclaimed.

7. To appoint any person or persons, by and with their consent, to transact any business, which the Association may deem necessary.

8. The Association shall have power to adjourn at any time or place they may think most proper.

9. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

PEARL RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CONVENED AT FAIR RIVER CHURCH, LAWRENCE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 1842.

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THE Pearl River Baptist Association met at the same and place appointed, and Brother Calvin Magee preached the introductory sermon, from 1st Corinthians, 6th chapter and 20th verse. "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are Gods."

The Association then, after a short space of time, assembled in the meeting house. The Moderator being absent, appointed Brother Norvel Robeson, Moderator pro tem.

Letters from thirty one churches were read, and the delegates took their seats.

James Powell elected Moderator, and C. Magee Clerk.

Brother A. McKenzie was appointed reading clerk.

Visiting members were invited to seats with us.

Received correspondence from sister associations, viz: From the Mississippi, a letter and parcel of minutes, by their messenger, Brother Jesse Young. Brother Keaves, his colleague, failed. From the Mt. Pisgah, a letter by their messenger, Brother John P. Martin. Brother Wm. Denson, his colleague, failed. From the Eastern Louisiana, a parcel of minutes, by their messenger, Brother W. L. Sibley: his colleague failed. From the Union a parcel of minutes.

Appointed committees as follows, viz: On preaching, Brothers Benjamin Cooper, David Langston and T. Hutchins. To arrange the business and revise the circular, Brothers A. McKenzie, Isaac Brakefield and James Murray, with the Moderator and Clerk. On Finance, Brothers S. B. Mullen, John Simmons and Simon Ross. On nomination, James Murray, Wm. Fortinberry, and Joshua Sandefor.

Agreed to continue correspondence with sister associations, and appointed Brother Isaac Brakefield to write to the Mississippi; Brothers A. McKenzie and W. Fortinberry, messengers; Brother McKenzie to write to the Union; Brothers S. B. Mullen and W. Williams, messengers; Brother S. B. Mullen to write to the Pisgah; Brothers James Murray and Joshua Sandefor, messengers; Brother Robinson to write to the Eastern Louisiana; Brothers C. Magee and W. Fortinberry, messengers.

On petitions, the churches Mount Zion, Pike county, and Mount Moriah, Lawrence county, were granted letters of dismission.

Agreed to hold the next association at Silver Creek, Lawrence county.

The committee on preaching reported for the Sabbath, that they had appointed Brothers S. B. Mulen, W. Fortinberry, N. Robeson, and Brother A. McKenzie, in the order of their names.

Adjourned until Monday, 9 o'clock, A. M., prayer by the Moderator.

MONDAY, September 15th, 1845.

The association met pursuant to adjournment. Br. Martin prayed.

Called for reports. Brother A. McKenzie from the committee of arrangement and revision, made a report, which was received and agreed to.

Brother James Murray from the committee on nominations, made a report which was received.

Resolved, that said report be taken up item by item for adoption.

Item 1st adopted—to preach the introductory sermon, Brother J. Sandefor, and Brother Alexander Murray, his alternate.

Item 2d—to write the circular, Brother N. Robeson, on the subject of Baptism.

Resolved, That the third item be struck out.

4th. To prepare and superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes, the Clerk.

Resolved, That the 5th item be recommitted and Brothers N. Robeson and Ross be added to the committee.

The committee to whom the 5th item was recommitted, made a report which was received and adopted.

The following persons appointed to constitute the Missionary board for the ensuing year, viz: James Murray, Thomas Hutchins, William Williams, Simeon Ross, William Barnes, John Bishop, William Fortinberry, James Mikell, and Daniel C. Butler, five to be a quorum of the board and to meet on their own adjournment.

The report of the board of home missions was presented, read, and adopted, as follows:

Report of the Executive Board of the Pearl River Baptist Association.

DEAR BRETHREN:—With the most profound gratitude to our God, for his unerring counsels and gracious influence, which have conducted our glorious enterprise from its origin, and hath prospered and sanctified every onward step of the great cause of missions, under our direction: we present to you our annual report. Perhaps no institution with so limited an amount of means, and every way so circumscribed in action, has accomplished a greater amount of good. Although but little fruit has yet matured so as to gather in a large increase, yet, when we consider that, *to gather* is not the first work of Missionaries; and the short time we have been laboring in the field, it cannot be expected that much fruit could have been realized so soon. Neither does it argue that great good has not been done; for the way has been opened, prejudices have been removed, truth has been disseminated, the seed have been sown! Some of which, we have good evidence to believe, has fallen in goodly soil, and already are "*springing up into eternal life.*" An acquaintance has been formed with the conduct of the people and situation of the country, to a considerable extent. Bibles, Testaments and religious books and tracts have been circulated amongst the destitute, and indeed much has been done eve-

ry way, to prepare the way and lighten the task of the missionary who may labour in that field hereafter, together with a great anxiety created in many congregations for the word to be preached regularly amongst them; and some are willing to contribute towards sustaining the Gospel. There is much to encourage zeal and strengthen our hands in this great and good work. The report of your missionaries has been of a most encouraging nature. The Macedonian cry, "come over and help us," has sounded in their ears wherever they have been; appeals of the most thrilling nature have been made by them to the Board for more help, to cultivate this large and interesting field, parts of which are already whitening for the harvest. The Board, early in the fiscal year responded to those appeals, so far as possible, at that time, by appointing agents in different parts of the association, to collect funds for the purpose of sustaining one in the field; and the missionary appointed to ride and consume the funds as fast as collected, &c. This measure has been prosecuted with zeal by some of the agents, by which means have been collected sufficiently to sustain the missionary about 30 days, which has been rendered over and above the appointments of the association, and much good effected thereby. The missionary has been enabled to visit many destitute places, and at one he has baptised seven already, and several more are waiting for another visit. A church will soon be erected at this place, the fruits of missionary enterprise. All your missionaries but one have labored, and mostly all of them have spent the time given them in their appointments. They have come off strengthened with zeal in the great cause. They all unitedly say, now is the time to plant the Baptist standard, in this destitute country. *The way is now open, but it soon may be shut, if not occupied immediately.* Every thing urges us to greater zeal and perseverance, in accomplishing this great object as soon as possible; but we, with our limited amount of means, cannot do it in a day; no, not in a year. But if we hold on and push ahead we can do a great deal: yes, can plant the standard of the cross there, which, when planted, will remain, and wield an influence that will be felt and blessed by unborn thousands, long after the present members of this institution will be reaping the rich reward of their labors in a world of everlasting bliss! Your Board would suggest the propriety of locating, if possible, and sustaining a missionary in the field, and cultivating a portion, as it is impossible to cultivate all with our means, and a part well cultivated will yield more fruit than to spread a little over all, as then nothing could be seen as resulting from the labor, or at least but little.

Our meetings have been very interesting generally, unity of sentiment, good feeling and deep interest have characterized all our deliberations,—which is a manifest evidence of heart interest with all those engaged in the work, and the ruling agency of the Holy Spirit, which is the great President of all well organized missionary societies, and ever will carry on so great a work until "earth's remote nations have learned Messiah's name." Your missionaries report "very good congregations at the appointments, and generally anxiety and good feeling amongst them."

No place is, perhaps, more destitute than the field we occupy, and no place demands our sympathies and aid more: and, perhaps, no place

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would yield a richer harvest to repay our toil: and so far as we are capable of judging, this is the field where all our means should be bestowed. Respectfully submitted.

A. McKENZIE, Sec.
Below is a table exhibiting the amount of labor performed by all the Missionaries.

Names of Missionaries	Sermons P	Day lab'rd	Miles travel	Persons h'rd	Baptised	Ch. consulted	Lectures	Mourners	Money rec'd	Rec'd board
Jesse Crawford,	44 53	772	1941	1	4				\$26 67	\$79 50
Alex. McKenzie,	41 59	1018	2265	10	1	7	164		2 10	87 00
James Murray,	23 24	323	940			3	50		2 10	36 00
Calvin Magee,										
Alexander Murray,	20 21									
Joshua Sandefor,	21 21	240	651		2				30 77	31 50
										31 50

The committee on Finance reported that they had examined the treasurer's report, and found it stated correctly, and amply sustained. For association purposes remaining in the hands of the Treasurer:

Home mission purposes, \$13 72

The receipts for the present year for Association purposes 62 58

For home mission purposes, 153 00

Public collection on the Sabbath, 159 00

SIMEON ROSS, Treasurer. S. B. MILLER, Chairm'n. 37 00

The Circular letter prepared by Brother James Murray, was read and adopted.

The letters to corresponding associations, read and adopted.

Resolved, That we have printed in our minutes the Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Resolved, That the Clerk be allowed \$1 50 per day for his services, this year and last, for superintending the printing of the minutes, &c.

Resolved, That Brothers C. Magee, and W. Fortinberry, be appointed a committee to visit Little River church, and report their state at the next association.

Ordered, That the Clerk forward to the Corresponding Secretary of the Baptist State Convention, 50 copies of the minutes of this session of our association.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to have the minutes printed where they can be done the cheapest.

Brother Robeson asked leave of absence, it was granted.

Resolved, That we have an additional table, showing the time of each meeting, and preacher, with the post office.

The Moderator announced the business of the Association done. Entered immediately on Missionary business.

Resolved, That we appoint a missionary to ride twelve days in each month, and the Bay of Baloxi be the central point of his labors.

Agreed to reconsider the above resolution

Resolved, That Brother McKenzie be appointed our missionary for

144 days in the home field—he was appointed in last year and made his own appointments.

Resolved, That Brother J. Sandefor make his report of his missionary labors.

Brother Sandefor made a report which was received, and ordered that he be paid for his labors, viz: fifteen days.

Resolved, That A. Murray be allowed pay for 6 days labor over his appointments by the association. An order was granted on the treasurer to pay him.

Resolved, That the Clerk be allowed to call aid to assist in preparing the minutes for the press, and the aid be allowed the same per day as the Clerk.

Adjourned, to meet at Silver Creek Church, in Lawrence County, on the Saturday before the second Lord's day, in September, 1846.

Prayer by the Brother Moderator.

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CIRCULAR LETTER.
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The ministers and delegates of the Pearl River Associations, and to the churches comprising the same, may grace, mercy and truth abound with you.

Beloved Brethren, we would acknowledge the providence of our Heavenly Father in permitting us to assemble once more in an associated capacity, for the purpose of attending to the affairs of Christ's Kingdom. And, in addressing our circular to you, we shall invite your attention to the subject of justification by faith. The term justification by faith, implies an acquittal from condemnation; and to this end, the Apostle says, "whatever things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God." Rom. iii. 6, 19 v. And in the 20th verse, the Apostle declares that "no flesh shall be justified by the deeds of the law, and that by the law is the knowledge of sin." The law of nature leaves the Gentile without excuse, and the law given by Moses condemns the Jew. Therefore, we readily coincide with the conclusion of the Apostle, that "there is none righteous, no not one;" and it follows as a matter of course, that they are ungodly in the sight of God.

And the law is so far from justifying its votaries, that it is perpetually pouring its curses upon their guilty heads. The Apostle then shows that the Divine method by which alone sinners can be justified before God: thus, we quote Paul to the Rom. iii. 21., "But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the Prophets." Observe the clear definition of it, even the righteousness of God, which is by faith of Jesus Christ, unto all, and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference, "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, being justified freely by his grace." And also observe the reduplication of the expression, denoting the fulness and freeness of justification through the redemption, that is in Christ Jesus, whom God hath set forth, to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God. To declare, I say, at this time, his righteousness, "that he might be just and the justifier of

him that believeth" in Jesus. Here the Apostle asks, "where then is boasting, it is excluded. By what law? of works? nay, but by the law of Faith." Thus, we arrive at the point embraced in our subject, that a sinner cannot be justified for his works or deeds done to satisfy the Divine Law. The importance of the subject induces us to add a few more decisive passages of Scripture, to more fully illustrate and confirm the doctrine. The great impossibility of justification being of works is certainly very obvious, for the Apostle says, (Rom. iv. 5.) "To him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." So he tells the Eph. ii. 6, 8, 9, "By grace are ye saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God," "not of works, lest any man should boast." Neither can it be by our own obedience, because it is wholly attributable to the obedience of Christ. Rom. v. 18, 19, "By the righteousness of one, the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life, for as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. It cannot be by faith as a work, for St. Paul says (Rom. iv. 16.) "Therefore, it is of faith that it might be by grace; to the end that the promise might be sure to all seed;" and shows that grace and works are in this matter quite opposite. (Rom. ix. 6.) It is very strange in this enlightened age, with such clouds of testimony from Heaven, that men should contend for justification by the deeds of the law. God condemned the Jews for going about to establish their own righteousness to every one, and not submitting to the righteousness of God, which is by faith. (Rom. x. 3, 4.) "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." Nor is it possible that a sinner can receive justification by faith but once; because it is God that justifieth. And he says by Paul to the Rom. i. 17, "The just shall live by faith," and in Heb. x. 38, 39, Paul tells the justified Hebrews that they stand by faith, with eternal life and glory, so as not to leave any room for even a dream of a second justification, *by works*. Nor can we even hope to be justified partly for our obedience, partly for Christ's. For St. Paul tells the Gallatians, if they be circumcised Christ shall profit them nothing—for says he, I testify to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. Christ has become of no effect unto you, who-soever of you are justified by the law, ye are fallen from grace. If we seek righteousness therefore *by works*, we shall be left without righteousness, perhaps when we shall most need it. Israel was denied the righteousness which is by faith, because they sought it by the works of the law, while it is very obvious it can only be obtained by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. For the Apostle, (Rom. v. 1,) says "Being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ; by whom also, we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand." When the sinner believeth he is immediately justified, and not until then. And though a sinner according to the revealed word of God, he is accounted righteous in His sight. His word pronounces on every true believer the sentence of justification, and they stand accepted before him as free from all guilt as if they were righteous altogether; righteous according to the gracious declaration by Him—"all that believe are justified from all things from which ye

could not be justified by the law of Moses, (Acts, xiii. 39.) The faith that saves, however, is not a dead and vain faith, but a true and living faith. St. James asks, what doth it profit though a man says he has faith and have not works—can faith save him? Any man may profess to have faith, but real faith is proved to be such by its fruits only.—Justification is continued by the same means by which it was first received: it is founded on the mediation, who was foretold as one to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sin; and also to make reconciliation for iniquities, and bring in everlasting righteousness—who ever liveth to make intercession for us, and who has declared that his sheep shall never perish. He maintains the faith which he gave, (Luke xxii. 32.) and thus, notwithstanding the daily temptations of the believer in Christ's faith, is increased as to its enjoyment of the blessing, and renewed and confirmed from day to day, constantly receiving faith in Jesus. So the Apostle declares in his experience, "The life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me;" (Gal. ii. 20.) Such is the doctrine of one free justification before God by faith. It is one being accounted righteous in His sight through Christ Jesus; it springs from Divine grace; it is founded on the satisfaction made to Divine justice, and the fulfilling of the Divine law, by the obedience and death of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on the Roman Cross! Such is the declaration of Divine testimony in favor of the believer. Justification is received only by a living faith in Christ, and is manifested to our own consciences and to the world by a life of holy obedience. It is continued and maintained through the same faith, by which it was first obtained, and by which we trust it will be finished, being ever witnessed by all the fruits of a holy life, which spring from genuine faith.

Table exhibiting the time at which Churches meet, and the Ministers and Post Offices.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	DAYS.	PREACHERS.	P. OFFICE.
1. Antioch,	Marion,	3d Sun.	C. Magee,	Fordsville,
2. Bethany,	"	3d	N. Robeson,	Monticello,
3. Copiah,	Copiah,	2d	W. Hall,	Georgetown,
4. Ebenezer,	Covington,	1st	J P Martin,	Orangeburg
5. Fair River,	Lawrence,	4th	S Coaker,	Monticello,
6. Gallilee,	Copiah,	1st	H Harvesten,	Georgetown,
7. Hebron,	Lawrence,	4th	C Priece,	Monticello,
8. Hepsibah,	"	2d	W Fortinberry,	Monticello,
9. Harmony,	Covington,	2d	W. Williams,	Mt. Carmel,
10. Hopewell,	Copiah,	1st	J Sandefor,	Georgetown,
14. Mount Zion,	Simpson,	1st	F Walker,	Westville.
12. N. Chapel,	Pike,	2d	Destitute,	Holmesville,
13. New Zion,	Marion,	1st	C Magee,	China Grove
14. New Hope,	Covington,	4th	A McKenzie,	Williamsb'g,
15. Palestine,	Simpson,	3d	J Sandefor,	Georgetown,
16. Providence,	Perry,	2d	A McKenzie,	Williamsb'g,
17. Silver Creek,	Pike,	4th	J Crawford,	Holmesville,
18. Strong river,	Simpson,	3d	J Powell,	Westville,
19. Society Hill,	Lawrence,	4th	W Fortinberry,	Columbia,
20. Salem,	Simpson,	2d	F Walker,	Westville,
21. Union,	Pike,	2d	C Magee,	China Grove,
22. Magees cr'k,	Pike,	4th	C Magee,	China Grove
23. Zion Hill,	Rankin,	3d	W Hall,	Westville,
24. Bethlehem,	Simpson,	2d	J Murray,	Westville,
25. Sardis,	Copiah,	1st	S B Mullin,	Gallatin,
26. Antioch,	Jones,	4th	N Robeson,	Ellisville,
27. Leaf River,	Covington,	1st	N Robeson,	Williamsb'g,
28. Bahale,	Lawrence,	2d	S B Mullin,	Monticello,
29. Silver Creek,	Lawrence,	1st	W Williams,	Monticello,

✶ Paid for printing these Minutes, \$42 50.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.		COUNTIES.	DELEGATES.		No. of										
					Bapt's	Rec'd	Dis	Excom	Restor	Dec'd	Tot	Tot	Bapt's	G. To	
Abiel,	Lawrence,	Simoon Ross, W H Mithell,	0	6	5					162	23		85	25	
Bethany,	Lawrence,	Jas. Cagle, And w Johnson,	2	4	7	1				111			116	70	
Behala,	Copiah,	Thos. Ramsey, Viett Guines,	1		3	3							37	20	
Copiah,	Covington,	William Gardner,	1		9					3	10		32	10	
Ebenezer,	Lawrence,	Benj. Cooper, Isaac Keys,		2	2					2			61	35	
Fair River,	Copiah,	G H Barrett, Turner Wilson,	3	1	3					5	56	13	69	40	
Gallilee,	Lawrence,	Thos. Hutchins, D Butler,	3	5	9					2	37	2	39	25	
Hebron,	Lawrence,	W FORTINBURY, D Livingston,	1	3	5					66	12		78	30	
Hebala,	Lawrence,	W M WILLIAMS, Al. Ward,	7	7	7					2	41	5	46	35	
Harmony,	Lawrence,	J. SANDER, J C Weeks,	4	3	7					1			30	30	
Hopewell,	Copiah,					2									
Little River,	Matton,		3	1	5					18	5	1	24		
Mount Moria,	Lawrence,	G B Jordan, W Gwin,			1					3			33	25	
Mount Zion,	Simpson,	Jesse Norwood, J MURRAY,	2		6					2	67	32	41	01	
New Chapel,	Pike,	J Simons, Wm Simons,	4	6	6					2	38		38	30	
New Zion,	Pike,	Bird Williams, J Moore,	1		2	2				1			26	20	
New Hope,	Pike,	C. Magee,	3	1	2					5			26	20	
Palestine,	Covington,	John Watts J W Hornaby,	2	2	8	1				2	74	6	82	30	
Providence,	Simpson,	I BRACKETT, B Lewis,			1								40	25	
Silver Creek,	Ferry,	A MCKINSEY, J Sanford,	2	3	5	2				5	13	5	68	30	
Silver Creek,	Pike,	Sci O Magee, Benj Morris,	3	2	8	5				2	87	15	102	60	
Strong River,	Lawrence,	Jonathan Price, R. Bennett,			1					1	64	22	86	40	
Excelsi Hill	Simpson,	James Lowell, V T Powell,	4	5	1	1				1	27	2	27	26	
Salem,	Lawrence,	John Cox, John Nelson,	1	1	1					4	55	10	65	30	
Union,	Simpson,	J. Fortinberry,		2	4						1	29	17	46	20
Magee's Crk, Pike,	Pike,	Daniel Oquin, James Kent,	2	3							11	3	15	15	
Zion Hill,	Pike,	J McKenzie, B Deaughter,	2		2	1							38	25	
Bethle,	Rankin,		1	2	5					40	8		45	35	

Names of
Churches.

Counties.

Delegates.

No.
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Exc.
Dist.
Reg.
Bapt.

St James Gardens

William Gardner

Wm. Gardner

Zion Hill
Beble

J Makezie, B Deaubier,

[illegible]

27
MINUTES

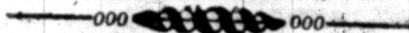
OF THE

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

PEARL RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

*Convened at the Silver Creek Church, Lawrence County, Mississippi,
September 12th, 1846.*



COVINGTON, LA.

PRINTED BY J. D. DAVENPORT,

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MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
PEARL RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

Convened at the Silver Creek Church, Lawrence County, Mississippi,

September 12th, 1846.

THE Pearl River Baptist Association met at the time and place appointed, and brother Joshua Sandefor preached the introductory sermon from the Gospel of Christ by St. Mark, 16th chapter, 15th and 16th verses, "And he said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned."

The Association then, after a short intermission, assembled in the meeting house. The Moderator being sick, appointed brother Jesse Crawford to organize the Association.

Letters from twenty nine churches were read and the delegates took their seats.

The Association went into the choice of Moderator and Clerk, the result of which was, brother Jesse Crawford elected Moderator and C. Magee, Clerk. Brother Norvel Robeson was appointed reading Clerk. Visiting ministers invited to serve with us.

Appointed a committee to arrange the preaching during the meeting, consisting of brethren Simeon Ross, William Barnes, and William T. Sandefor.

Called for petitionary letters: whereupon the churches Mountain Creek, Stearns Creek, Pleasant Hill, and Shiloh, presented letters which were read and received; and the Moderator gave the right hand of fellowship to the delegates.

The committee on preaching reported that they had appointed for the Sabbath the following brethren: William Denison, William Mullins, and T. M. Bond, in the order of their names, and brother Gader Price to close the services.

Received correspondence from Sister Associations, viz: from the Union, a letter and parcel of minutes by their messengers, brethren John P. Martin and William Denison; from the eastern Louisiana, a parcel of minutes, by their messenger, brother William L. Sibley, brother Allen, his colleague, failed; from the Mississippi, a letter and parcel of minutes, by their messengers, brethren Thomas M. Bond and Zachariah Reaves.

Brother Robeson stated to the Association, he had failed to prepare the circular as appointed; whereupon, agreed to have no circular for the present year.

Appointed a committee to arrange the business, consisting of Brethren Robeson, McKenzie, Price and Fortinberry, with the Moderator and Clerk. Agreed to continue correspondence with sister Associations, and appointed brother S. B. Mullin to write to the Mississippi; brothers J. Crawford and C. Magee, messengers. Brother William T. Sandefor to write to the eastern Louisiana; brothers J. Crawford and C. Magee, messengers. Brother V. T. Powell to write to the Union; brothers S. B. Mullin and Alexander Murray, messengers. Brother A. P. Robeson to write to the Pisgah; brothers James Murray and Cador Price, messengers.

Appointed a committee on finance—brothers William Barnes and Bird Williams.

On petition of a number of Churches, the following brethren, William Fortinberry, James Murray and William Williams, were appointed to assist in the organization of a new Association.

Granted brother Dent leave of absence.

Adjourned until Monday, nine o'clock, A. M. Prayer by brother Bond.

MONDAY MORNING, Sept. 14th, 1846.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment; brother leaves prayed. Read the rules of Decorum.

Called for reports—brother N. Robeson from the committee of arrangements, made a report which was received and agreed to.

The letters to corresponding Associations, read and approved.

Agreed to request brother W. H. Taylor to return to the Association the letter from the Central Association, which he withdrew on Saturday for reconsideration—said letter being returned, was reconsidered and it was agreed to return an answer, informing them that we cannot at this time recognize them as a sister Association, because we are left in ignorance of their faith and order. And brother N. Robeson, jr., was appointed to prepare said answer.

Granted S. Harper leave of absence.

The committee appointed to visit the Little River Church, beg leave to report: We have visited said church, and upon examination found her destitute of preaching, and in the entire neglect of meeting together as a church, and have made no arrangements to represent herself in the Association, all of which is respectfully submitted.

C. MAGEE, Chairman.

The committee on finance reported that they had examined the treasurer's report, and found it stated correctly and amply sustained.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts of 1845, for Association purposes,	\$172
Balance remaining in the Treasury for 1844,	13 72
	<hr/>
	\$185, 72
Credit by cash paid for Association purposes	
Brother Fortinberry, Messenger,	10 50
" McKenzie,	13 50
" Williams,	13 50
" Sandefor,	10 50
" J. Murray,	10 50
" Fortinberry,	12 00
" Magee,	10 50
" Mullin,	10 50
	<hr/>
	\$90 50

Paid to brother C. Magee, for superintending the printing of the minutes, : : : : : 42 50
For clerk's fees, : : : : : 15 00

Balance remaining in the treasury, : : : : : \$36 72
Receipts of the present year for Association purposes, : : : : : 144 28
Receipts of the Association in 1845, for missionary purposes, : : : : : 159 00
Public collections on Sunday, in 1845, : : : : : 37 00
Balance remaining in the treasury in 1844, : : : : : 62 58

\$258 58

Credit by cash paid for Missionary purposes.
Sept. 15th, to brother Joshua Sandefor, : : : : : 22 50
" " " Alexander Murray, : : : : : 9 00
Paid to brother A. McKenzie, for 144 days labour, : : : : : 216 00

\$147 50

Balance remaining in the treasury, : : : : : 11 58
The receipts for the present year, : : : : : 63 99

\$223 07

Agreed to hold the next Association at the Silver Creek church, Pike county.

On petition, the churches Providence, (Perry county,) Antioch, (Jones county,) and the Leaf River, (Covington county,) were granted letters of dismission, for the purpose of forming a new Association.

Appointed brother Alexander Murray, to deliver the next introductory sermon, and brother Fortinberry his alternate.

Appointed brother Jesse Crawford to prepare the circular for the next Association.

Appointed the clerk to superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes.

The letter to the central Association, read and approved.

Resolved, That we recommend to the churches of our body, that they meet at their places of worship on Monday, after the 5th Lord's day in November next, for the purpose of humiliation, fasting and prayer before God, in view of the great destitution of Gospel preaching among us; and that God would send forth more laborers into this part of his vineyard.

Resolved, That we recommend to the several churches composing this body, the propriety of establishing regular monthly, concert prayer meetings, on the first Monday evening in every month, for the prosperity of the Redeemer's Kingdom, and more especially the spread of the Gospel.

The Association would announce to the churches the sad tidings of the death of the venerable Francis Walker, who has been removed to his rest, since our last meeting. Brother Walker was a native of the State of Maryland, was ordained in South Carolina, more than 40 years ago, and removed to this State in the year 1818, and died at the advanced age of eighty seven. His work is done; and this should admonish us to work while it is day, as the night must soon come when we cannot work. We also announce the death of brother James Courtney, a Gospel minister.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the brethren and friends of this church and vicinity for the hospitable manner in which they have entertained us while among them.

Resolved, That we are gratified to learn that the "Mississippi Baptist

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"Publication Society," have succeeded so far as to be able to purchase a press and establish a printing office in the city of Jackson.

Resolved, That we recommend the "Mississippi Baptist," edited by Elder W. H. Taylor, the only religious newspaper in the State, to the patronage of our denomination generally, and especially to the support of the members of the churches composing this Association.

Called for the reading of the report relative to "Little River Church," whereupon the following resolution was offered: In view of the condition of the church at Little River, agreed to advise said church to obtain, if possible, stated preaching the ensuing year; and we further recommend our ministers to attend them regularly, if they can, and if not statedly, as often as possible.

The Moderator announced the business of the Association accomplished. Proceeded to missionary business.

Called for reports.

The executive board made a report which was received, and ordered that an abstract of the same, sufficient to show what has been done, and the amount of labor performed, be printed in these minutes.

Resolved, That the clerk be allowed to loan the summary of said report to brother A. McKenzie.

Ordered, That the treasurer pay brother A. McKenzie for their 8 days labor he spent above his appointment.

Appointed the following brethren members of the executive board for the ensuing year. James Murray, Cader Price, William Barnes, William Williams, Elbert Wood, V. T. Powell, James Mikell, John Bishop and Simeon Ross.

Granted brother Hornsby leave of absence.

Voted, That we disapprove of the policy heretofore pursued by the Association, in making appropriations from the Treasury for services that have not been engaged by authority of the Association.

Appointed the following brethren agents for the Missionary cause, to solicit and take up collections: William T. Sandefor, Hosea Davis, George Burket and V. T. Powell.

The minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned to meet with Silver Creek Church, (Pike County) Saturday before the second Lord's day in September, 1847.

CALVIN MAGEE, Clerk.

JESSE CRAWFORD, Moderator.

Abstract of the report of the executive board of the Pearl River Baptist Association, showing what was done, and the amount of labor performed by brother A. McKenzie, our Missionary for last year.

ABSTRACT.

No. of miles rode,	2563	No. of houses visited,	196
" " sermons and lectures,	90	" " books distributed,	292
" " exhortations,	83	" " days rode,	152
" " mourners prayed for,	205	" baptized,	6
" heard the word pr'chd,	3224	" of churches constituted,	1
" stations preached at,	30	" " churches reorganized,	2
" of religious conversations,	179	Assisted at ordination of Deacons,	1

Your board have passed an order on the Treasurer of the Pearl River Baptist Association, to pay brother A. McKenzie for 144 days labor, amounting to \$216, and leaving a balance of eight days unpaid for all of which is respectfully submitted, this 12th day of September, 1847.

WM. BARNES, Sec.

WM. WILLIAMS, Pres.

✓ Paid for printing these Minutes \$30.

Names
Churches

Antioch,
Bethany,
Bahala,
Copiah,
Ebenezer,
Fair River,
Gallilee,
Hebron,
Hepsiabah,
Harmony,
Hopewell,
Little River,
Mount Zion,
New Church,
New Zion,
New Hope,
Palestine,
Silver Creek,
Providence,
Silver Creek,
Strong River,
Society Hill,
Union,
Magee's,
Zion Hill,
Bethlehem,
Sardis,
Antioch,
Leaf River,
Mountain,
Steen's,
Pleasant,
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Names of Churches.	Counties.	Names of Delegates.	Baptized.	Received.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Restored.	Dead.	Total W.	Total col.	Baptized c.	Total.
Antioch.	Marion.	Hosea Davis, Newit Cowart,		5				454	22		76	
Bethany.	Lawrence	James Mikell, W H Mikell,		110	6			2			92	
Bahala.	"	Christian Fur, James Cagle,		113	1						25	
Copiah.	Copiah.	H H. Guines, Timothy Brown,	1	9				3	9		22	
Ebenezer.	Covington	Wm Barnes, Wm Gardner,		2	3						56	
Fair River.	Lawrence	Jesse Maxwell, Benj Cooper,			2			51	13		64	
Gallilee.	Copiah.	G H Barrett, John Smith,	2	6	5	1		40	2		42	
Hebron.	Lawrence	D C Butler, H S Green,	2	10	4			61	13		74	5
Hepsibah	"	W FORTINBERRY, A Shepherd,		9	1	4		3			49	3
Harmony.	"	Elbert Wood, W WILLIAMS,	1	2	1	3					29	2
Hopewell.	Copiah.	W T Sandefor, R Sojourner,		1					5		24	1
Little River.	Marion.	No communication.										
Mount Zion.	Simpson.	JAMES MURRAY, J P Norwood,	1	3	6			259	29		188	3
New Chapel.	Pike.	Bird Williams, Edm Hodges,			1	6		119	5		24	1
New Zion.	"	C MAGEE, C K Fortinberry,		4	3	2		470	8		178	3
New Hope.	Covington	John Watts, John W Hornsby,	4		2						36	2
Palestine.	Simpson.	ISAAC BRAKEFIELD, J Butler,	1	3	8			147	13		60	3
Silver Creek.	Pike.	JESSE CRAWFORD, Wm Elzey,	5	4	4	1		168	24	3	92	3
Providence.	Perry.	A MCKENZIE, JOAN SANFORD,	1	2	5	1	1	1	15		93	5
Silver Creek.	Lawrence.	Jesse Armstrong, Simeon Ross,		3	2	1		125	1		26	2
Strong River.	Simpson.	JAS POWELL, sen., A MURRAY,	1	8	12	2		2			56	2
Society Hill.	Lawrence	James R Cox, John Cox,			2	1		126	16		42	2
Union.	Pike.	J W Kent, Melia Manning,	2	1	2			2			36	2
Magee's Creek	"	T Gibson, James W. Wolf,	5	5		1		57	8		65	3
Zion Hill.	Rankin.	F H C Dent,		3	6	1		13	1		14	1
Bethlehem.	Simpson.	Jesse Dear, Blackburn Bridges,		2	5	1					20	2
Sardis.	Copiah.	Wm Farmey, John Timple,	1	3	7	2					18	1
Antioch.	Jones.	R Powel,	1	8			1				18	2
Leaf River.	Covington	N ROBESON, jr, A P Robeson,			3	1					35	2
Mountain Cr	Rankin.	W B-Trailer, S Harper,									34	2
Steen's Creek.	"	CADER PRICE, Jos Stephens,									94	2
Pleasant Hill.	Simpson.	V T POWEL, T W Wilson,						11	1		12	1
Shiloh.	Lawrence.	John Grice, Andrew Johnson,						11.			11	1

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IS, Pres.

"Publication Society," have succeeded so far as to be able to purchase a press and establish a printing office in the city of Jackson.

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Called for reports.

The executive board made a report which was received, and ordered that an abstract of the same, sufficient to show what has been done, and the amount of labor performed, be printed in these minutes.

Resolved, That the clerk be allowed to loan the summary of said report to brother A. McKenzie.

Ordered, That the treasurer pay brother A. McKenzie for the 18 days labor he spent above his appointment.

Appointed the following brethren members of the executive board for the ensuing year. James Murray, Cader Price, William Barnes, William Williams, Elbert Wood, V. T. Powell, James Mikell, John Bishop and Simeon Ross.

Granted brother Hornsby leave of absence.

Voted, That we disapprove of the policy heretofore pursued by the Association, in making appropriations from the Treasury for services that have not been engaged by authority of the Association.

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JESSE CRAWFORD, Moderator.

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" " sermons and lectures,	90	" " books distributed,	292
" " exhortations,	83	" " days rode,	152
" " mourners prayed for,	205	" baptised,	6
" heard the word pr'chd,	3224	" of churches constituted,	1
" stations preached at,	30	" " churches reorganized,	2
" of religious conversations,	179	Assisted at ordination of Deacons,	1

Your board have passed an order on the Treasurer of the Pearl River Baptist Association, to pay brother A. McKenzie for 144 days labor, amounting to \$216, and leaving a balance of eight days unpaid for; all of which is respectfully submitted, this 12th day of September, 1847.

WM. BARNES, Sec.

WM. WILLIAMS, Pres.

Paid for printing these Minutes \$30.

Names
Church

Antioch
Bethany,
Bakala,
Cophig,
Ebenezer
Fair River
Gallilee,
Hebron,
Hepsibah
Hornony
Hopewell
Little River
Mount Zion
New Church
New Zion
New Hope
Palestine
Silver Creek
Providence
Silver Creek
Strong River
Society Lane
Union,
Magee's
Zion Hill
Bethlehem
Sardis.
Antioch,
Leaf River
Mountain
Steen's Church
Pleasant
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Antioch.	Marion.	Hosea Davis, Newit Cowart,		5				454	22		76	2
Bethany,	Lawrence	James Mikell, W H Mikell,	1	10	6			2			99	
Bethala,	"	Christian Fur, James Cagle,	1	13	1						25	
Copiah,	Copiah.	H H. Guines, Timothy Brown,	1	9				3		9	22	
Ebenezer,	Covington	Wm Barnes, Wm Gardner,		2	3						56	
Fair River,	Lawrence	Jesse Maxwell, Benj Cooper,		2					51	13	64	
Galilee,	Copiah,	G H Barrett, John Smith,	2	6	5	1			40	2	42	
Hebron,	Lawrence	D C Butler, H S Green,	2	10	4				61	13	74	5
Hepsibah	"	W FORTINBERRY, A Shepherd,		9	1	4		3			49	3
Harmony,	"	Elbert Wood, W WILLIAMS,	1	2	1	3					29	2
Hopevell,	Copiah,	W T Sandefor, R Sojourner,		1						5	24	1
Little River.	Marion,	No communication.										
Mount Zion,	Simpson,	JAMES MURRAY, J P Norwood,	1	3	6			259	29		188	3
New Chapel,	Pike,	Bird Williams, Edm Hodges,		1	6			119	5		24	1
New Zion,	"	C MAGEE, C K Fortinberry,		4	3	2		470	8		178	3
New Hope,	Covington	John Watts, John W Hornsby,	4	2							36	2
Palestine,	Simpson,	ISAAC BRAKEFIELD, J Butler,	1	3	5			147	13		60	3
Silver Creek,	Pike,	JESSE CRAWFORD, Wm Elzey,	5	4	4	1		168	24	3	92	3
Providence,	Perry,	A MCKENZIE, JOAN SANFORD,	1	2	5	1	1	1	15		98	5
Silver Creek,	Lawrence,	Jesse Armstrong, Simeon Ross,		3	2	1		125	1		26	2
Strong River,	Simpson,	JAS POWELE, sen., A MURRAY.	1	8	12	2		2			56	2
Society Hill,	Lawrence	James R Cox, John Cox,		2	1	2		126	16		42	2
Union,	Pike,	J W Kent, Melia Manning,	2	1	2			2			36	3
Magee's Creek	"	T Gibson, James W Wolf,	5	5		1		57	8		65	3
Zion Hill,	Rankin.	F H C Dent.		3	6	1		13	1		14	1
Bethlehem,	Simpson,	Jesse Dear, Blackburn Bridges,		2	5	1					26	3
Sardis.	Copiah,	Wm Farmey, John Timple,	1	3	7	2					18	1
Antioch,	Jones.	R Powel,	1	8			1				18	3
Leaf River.	Covington.	S ROBESON, jr, A P Robeson,			3	1					35	2
Mountain Crk	Rankin,	Elw B Traylor, S Harper,									34	3
Steen's Creek.	"	CADER PRICE, Jos Stephens,									94	5
Pleasant Hill,	Simpson,	V T POWEL, T W Wilson,						11	1		12	1
Shiloh.	Lawrence,	John Grice, Andrew Johnson,						11			11	1

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